



# News Release

## US Army Corps Of Engineers

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## Corp of Engineers to eradicate arundo donax at Hansen Dam Lakes

**LOS ANGELES**—A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractor will begin work spraying an herbicide to eradicate a troublesome pest plant on land surrounding the two lakes at Hansen Dam. Residents and visitors should avoid areas where it will be sprayed this week to kill arundo donax, a tall thin plant, which resembles bamboo. “We regret any inconvenience to its stakeholders, the public, from the necessity of this action, and we appreciate your patience,” commented Dr. Fred-Otto Egeler, public affairs officer. “We received unexpected funding to complete this project and it is imperative that we clean out the arundo as soon as possible.

“The areas to be affected will be marked by a greenish-blue dye indicating where our contractor has sprayed the pesticide,” Egeler said. “We recommend that people avoid the sprayed areas until the herbicide dries and we also discourage livestock from grazing in those areas. The spraying complies with regulations from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.”

Arundo donax, also known as the giant reed, is an invasive plant, which can quickly overtake native or preferred species of plants and vegetation. Spraying is one of the main management strategies to prevent, eradicate and control the weed.

After the pesticide spraying, expected to be completed by September 30, Corps personnel believe the wetlands around the Hansen Dam Lakes will be much more receptive to more attractive native plant life.